



# Agenda Item Form

Agenda Date: 6/15/2004

Districts Affected: #2

Dept. Head/Contact Information: Byron Johnson, Director, Purchasing Dept.

## Type of Agenda Item:

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Staffing Table Changes   | <input type="checkbox"/> Board Appointments        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tax Installment Agreements                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Tax Refunds              | <input type="checkbox"/> Donations                 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RFP/ BID/ Best Value Procurement | <input type="checkbox"/> Budget Transfer          | <input type="checkbox"/> Item Placed by Citizen    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Application for Facility Use                | <input type="checkbox"/> Bldg. Permits/Inspection | <input type="checkbox"/> Introduction of Ordinance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Interlocal Agreements                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Contract/Lease Agreement | <input type="checkbox"/> Grant Application         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____                                 |   |  |

## Funding Source:

- ☐ General Fund
- ☐ Grant (duration of funds: \_\_\_\_\_ Months)
- ☒ Other Source: General and Commercial Aviation

## Legal:

- ☒ Legal Review Required      Attorney Assigned (please scroll down): Ruth Reyes      ☐ Approved      ☐ Denied

Timeline Priority:   ☐ High      ☐ Medium      ☒ Low      # of days: \_\_\_\_\_

## Why is this item necessary:

To be able to award within the required time frame.

Explain Costs, including ongoing maintenance and operating expenditures, or Cost Savings:

\_\_\_\_\_

Statutory or Citizen Concerns:

\_\_\_\_\_

Departmental Concerns:

\_\_\_\_\_

\*  
DATE: June 3, 2004  
TO: Municipal Clerk  
FROM: Byron E. Johnson, C.P.M.  
Director of Purchasing - x4313  
THRU: Aurora Wells  
Interim Bid Clerk, 4038

CITY CLERK DEPARTMENT  
2004 JUN 10 PM 12 43

*Byron E. Johnson*

Please place the following item on the **CONSENT** agenda for the Council Meeting of **JUNE 15, 2004.**

Item should read as follows:

Bid No.: 2004-161 T-Hangar Electrical System Upgrade  
Contractor: Rio Bravo Electric, Inc. dba Rio Grande Electric  
El Paso, Texas  
Department: El Paso International Airport  
Funds Available: 62620024-PAP0025-41064-508027  
Funding Source: General & Commercial Aviation  
Items: Base Bid \$ 175,500.00

Total Award: \$ 175,500.00  
Districts: #2

The Departments of Purchasing, Engineering and El Paso International Airport recommend the award of this contract to Rio Bravo Electric, Inc. dba Rio Grande Electric the low responsible, responsive bidder. It is requested that the Mayor of the City of El Paso be authorized to sign the referenced contract approved by the City Engineer, Contract Compliance, and the City Attorney. Additionally, it is requested that the Mayor be authorized to execute budget transfers for this award and project, as necessary.

As part of the award of this contract, the City Engineer is authorized to approve contract changes which are necessary for proper construction of the work and carrying out the intent of the design, but which do not increase the scope of the contract as awarded, in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 per numbered change order, and not to exceed the total of 10% of the original contract price as awarded, without further authorization by City Council

Contact person: Barbara Crumley, Administrative Analyst at 541-4113.

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AGENDA FOR: **JUNE 15, 2004**

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# CONSTRUCTION PROJECT FORM

## Lump Sum

DATE: June 3, 2004  
 PROJECT: T-Hangar Electrical System Upgrade  
 BID NO: 2004-161  
 ACCOUNT NO: 62620024/PAP0025/41064/508027  
 FUNDING SOURCE: General & Commercial Aviation  
 DEPARTMENT: El Paso International Airport  
 REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT(S): #2

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AGENDA DATE: June 15, 2004	Lowest responsive and responsible bidder CONTRACTOR: Rio Bravo Electric, Inc. dba Rio Grande Electric AMOUNT: \$ 175,500.00
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**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Departments of Purchasing, Engineering, and El Paso International Airport recommend the award of this contract to Rio Bravo Electric, Inc., dba Rio Grande Electric the low responsible, responsive bidder. It is requested that the Mayor of the City of El Paso be authorized to sign the referenced contract approved by the City Engineer, Contract Compliance, and the City Attorney. Additionally, it is requested that the Mayor be authorized to execute budget transfers for this award and project, as necessary.

As part of the award of this contract, the City Engineer is authorized to approve contract changes which are necessary for proper construction of the work and carrying out the intent of the design, but which do not increase the scope of the contract as awarded, in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 per numbered change order, and not to exceed the total of 10% of the original contract price as awarded, without further authorization by City Council.

**DESCRIPTION OR EXPLANATION:**

Base Bid	\$ 175,500.00
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**TOTAL RECOMMENDED AWARD:** \$ 175,500.00  
**TIME FOR COMPLETION:** 90 Consecutive Calendar Days  
**LIQUIDATED DAMAGES:** \$ 500.00/Consecutive Calendar Day

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**COUNCIL or MASS TRANSIT BOARD:**      Approved ☐      Rejected ☐

Municipal Clerk \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVED:**

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Byron E. Johnson, C.P.M.  
 Director of Purchasing



## El Paso International Airport

**RECOMMENDATION**

### Memorandum

**TO:** Byron Johnson  
Purchasing Director

**FROM:** Patrick T. Abeln, A.A.E.  
Director of Aviation

**DATE:** May 20, 2004

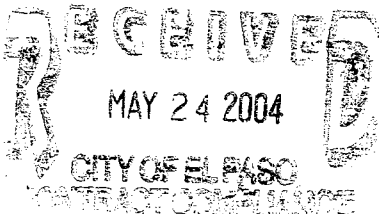
**SUBJECT:** T-Hangar Electrical System Upgrade  
Bid No. 2004-161

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The Department of Aviation has reviewed and analyzed the tabulation of bids on the above-referenced project, and recommends that the apparent lowest responsive, responsible bidder, Rio Bravo Electric, Inc. dba Rio Grande Electric, be awarded the contract as follows:

Base Bid	\$175,500.00
Total Award	\$175,500.00

If you should have questions, please do not hesitate to contact Monica Lombraña at 780-4793.



RECOMMENDATION



ENGINEERING CORPORATION

4110 Rio Bravo E El Paso, Texas 79902-1026 E Phone 915/534-9110 E Fax 915/534-9143 E prothstein@bathgroup.com

May 18, 2004

Monica Castrejon  
City of El Paso, Project Coordinator  
2 Civic Center Plaza  
El Paso, Texas 79901-1196

Reference: T-Hangar Electrical System Upgrade  
City of El Paso Project# 2004-161

Dear Mrs. Castrejon:

Sealed bids were received and opened on May 12, 2004 for the T-Hangar Electrical System Upgrade #2004-161. The chart below documents the results.

Bidders	Beltran Electrical Contractors, Inc.	High Point Electric Inc.	Kendrick Electric Corporation	Mesa Electrical Contractors Inc.	Rio Bravo Electric	Engr. Estimate
Base Bid	\$205,129.00	\$248,983.00	\$199,820.00	\$197,300.00	\$175,500.00	\$218,005.80
Ratio to Engr. Estimate	-6%	14%	-8%	-9%	-19%	0%

The low bidder was Rio Bravo Electric, Inc. with a bid of \$175,500.00. This bid is 19% below the engineer's estimate.

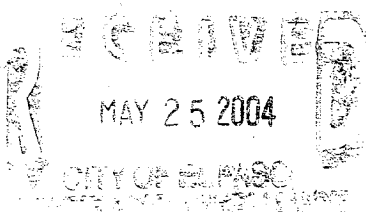
Bath Engineering Corporation recommends award of contract to Rio Bravo Electric, Inc. based on satisfactory work performed By Rio Bravo Electric, Inc. on other Bath designed projects.

Sincerely,

Bath Engineering Corporation

*Lorenzo De Santiago*  
Lorenzo De Santiago, P.E.  
Electrical Engineer

cc: 1188-27 / PJR / JG





## ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

*Excellence through Teamwork*

memorandum

TO: Byron E. Johnson  
Director of Purchasing

FROM: Javier Reyes, P. E.  
Engineering Program Manager

DATE: May 25, 2004

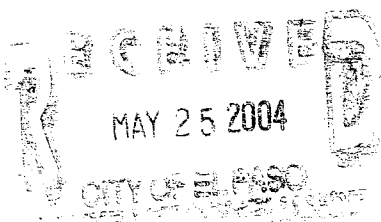
SUBJECT: Bid Recommendation

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We recommend that the "T-Hangar Electrical System Upgrade" the lowest bidder. The awarded contract should consist only of Base Bid I as follows:

Base Bid I to: **"Rio Bravo Electric, Inc."**  
with: **\$175,500.00 (one hundred seventy five thousand and five hundred dollars and no cents)**

If additional information is needed, please give me a call at extension 4630.  
Thanks.




## CITY OF EL PASO BID TABULATION

BID TITLE: T - HANGAR ELECTRICAL SYSTEM UPGRADE  
 BID DATE: MAY 12, 2004

BID NO : 2004-161  
 DEPARTMENT: AIRPORT

	BELTRAN ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS, INC. EL PASO, TEXAS	HIGH POINT ELECTRIC, INC. EL PASO, TEXAS	KENDRICK ELECTRIC CORPORATION EL PASO, TEXAS	MESA ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS, INC. EL PASO, TEXAS	RIO BRAVO ELECTRIC, INC. DBA RIO GRANDE ELECTRIC EL PASO, TEXAS
DESCRIPTION	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL
BASE BID	\$205,129.00	\$248,983.00	\$199,820.00	\$197,300.00	\$175,500.00
AMENDMENTS ACKNOWLEDGED	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
BID BOND SUBMITTED:	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

Approved By: 

2004-161 T-HANGAR ELECTRICAL SYSTEM UPGRADE

**SCOPE OF WORK**  
**T-HANGAR ELECTRICAL SYSTEM UPGRADE**  
**BID NUMBER 2004-161**

Summary: The purpose of the T-HANGAR ELECTRICAL SYSTEM UPGRADE project is to replace existing electrical distribution panels, direct burial feeder cables, and load centers serving T-Hangar buildings. The existing distribution panels will be replaced with new main panels to accommodate strategically located new distribution panels to better distribute load to new panelboard at each T-hangar building. Old direct burial cable will be removed and replaced with new feeders in conduit. Load centers will be replaced with new panelboard at each T-Hangar building to accommodate existing loads plus spare capacity for future loads. New lighting controls will be incorporated to maintain existing lighting schemes. Electrical service entrances will be modified as required or as determined by E.P.E.Co. Backfill and Re-asphalting as required for excavation of existing feeders and new trenching where new work is to be performed.

Base Bid: The Base Bid consists of replacing existing direct burial feeder cables, electrical distribution panels,, and load centers serving T-Hangar buildings. The work shall be performed as indicated on the drawings and in the specifications.



## PROPOSAL

TO THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF EL PASO  
EL PASO, TEXAS

GENTLEMEN:

The undersigned having familiarized themselves with the local conditions affecting the cost of work and with the Contract documents consisting of Invitation for Competitive Sealed Proposals, Information for Offerors, General Conditions, the Contractor's Proposal, Special Bid Conditions, Applicable Wage Rates, the Contract Form, plans, specifications, drawings, and addenda on file in the office of the Purchasing Department of the City of El Paso, hereby propose to perform everything required to be performed and to provide, furnish and install all the labor, materials, necessary tools, expendable equipment, and all utility and transportation services, and to complete in a workmanlike manner all the work required for the:

### T-HANGAR ELECTRICAL SYSTEM UPGRADE

#### BID NUMBER 2004-161

within the specified limits and in accordance with the plans and specifications as prepared for the City of El Paso, including Addenda Number(s) #1, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, AT THE FOLLOWING LUMP SUM (Additive alternate items are given on the following pages):

#### BASE BID:

The undersigned agrees to perform all of the work required for the total amount of:

\$ 175,500<sup>00</sup>

COMPANY NAME: RIO BRAVO ELECTRIC, INC. dba RIO GRANDE ELEC.

OFFEROR'S SIGNATURE: 

OFFEROR'S NAME: JESUS G. GUERRA

Offeror's Name must be typed or printed

I-C-a-1

## CONTRACT TIME AND LIQUIDATED DAMAGES

The undersigned Bidder agrees to commence work on a date to be specified in a written Notice to Proceed and to substantially complete the work on which he/she has bid within **NINETY (90) CONSECUTIVE CALENDAR DAYS**.

Bidder agrees to pay as liquidated damages the sum of **FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00)** for each consecutive calendar day thereafter as provided in paragraph 6.8 of the General Conditions of the Contract.

## PROPOSAL

Enclosed with this proposal is a certified check or bid bond for five percent (5%) of the TOTAL bid price including base bid(s) and alternate(s) which is agreed shall be collected and retained by the owner(s) as liquidated damages in the event this proposal is accepted by the Owner within forty-five (45) consecutive calendar days after the date advised for the reception of bids and the undersigned fails to execute the contract and the required performance and payment bonds with the Owner within fourteen (14) consecutive calendar days after the date said proposal is accepted; otherwise, the said bid security shall be returned to the undersigned upon demand.

THE UNDERSIGNED OFFEROR REPRESENTS TO THE CITY AND TO THE OTHER OFFERORS THAT HIS/HER PROPOSAL, AND THE ESTIMATES ON WHICH IT IS BASED, HAS BEEN CAREFULLY CHECKED AND CONTAINS NO ERRORS, AND NOTHING HAS BEEN OMITTED OR OVERLOOKED IN DETERMINING THE AMOUNTS BID.

OFFEROR'S NAME: RIO BRAVO ELECTRIC, INC. dba RIO GRANDE ELECTRIC

BY: [Signature] 5-12-04  
Signature Date  
JESUS G. GUERRA/PRESIDENT 774-0131 774-0239  
Print Signer's name & title Telephone Fax  
7125 STILES DRIVE EL PASO, TX. 79915  
Address City, State, Zip Code  
N/A N/A  
Physical Address of Business – if different from above City, State, Zip Code

IF THE OFFEROR IS A CORPORATION, THE FOLLOWING CERTIFICATE SHOULD BE EXECUTED:

I, MARIA L. BARRAZA, certify that I am the \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary of the corporation named as Offeror hereinabove; that JESUS G. GUERRA, who signed the foregoing contract on behalf of the Offeror, was then PRESIDENT of said corporation; that said proposal was duly signed for and in behalf of said corporation by authority of its governing body, and is within the scope of its corporate powers.

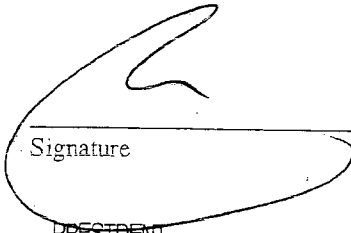
Maria L. Barraza  
CORPORATE SECRETARY SIGNATURE AND CORPORATE SEAL

## CERTIFICATION OF NON-COLLUSION

**PROJECT:** T-HANGAR ELECTRICAL SYSTEM UPGRADE

**BID NO:** 2004-161

The offeror, being sworn, deposes and says, RIO BRAVO ELECTRIC, INC. dba RIO GRANDE <sup>ELEC.</sup> the contractor, submitting this bid, and that its agents, officers or employers have not directly or indirectly entered into any agreements, participated in any collusion, or otherwise taken any action in restraint of free competitive bidding in connection with this proposal or with any City official.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

PRESIDENT

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

5-12-04

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

SUPPLEMENTAL OFFEROR INFORMATION

Part I

T-HANGAR ELECTRICAL SYSTEM UPGRADE

1. The legal name and the business address of the Offeror are:

RIO BRAVO ELECTRIC, INC. dba RIO GRANDE ELECTRIC

7125 STILES DRIVE EL PASO, TX. 79915

2. The Offeror is:

☐ A Single Proprietorship

☒ A Corporation

☐ A Limited Partnership

☐ A Joint Venture

Organized in the County of EL PASO, State of TEXAS  
(Name of State)

3. Race or ethnic group designation of Offeror. Enter race or ethnic group in the appropriate line:

☐ Black

☒ Hispanic

☐ Oriental

☐ American Indian

☐ Eskimo

☐ Aleut

☐ White

☐ Pacific Islander

4. The name, title and address of the owner, partner, or officers of the Offeror are:

NAME  
JESUS G. GUERRA

TITLE  
PRESIDENT

ADDRESS  
2617 SAVANNAH AVE.

MARIA L. BARRAZA

VICE-PRES, SEC/TRES.

2617 SAVANNAH AVE.

5. The names and addresses of all other persons, both natural and corporate, having a substantial interest in the Offeror, and the nature of the interest are:

N/A

6. The names, addresses and trade classifications of all other building construction contractors in which the Offeror has a substantial interest are:

NAME

TITLE

TRADE CLASSIFICATION

N/A

SUPPLEMENTAL OFFEROR INFORMATION  
PART III

STATEMENT OF INCORPORATED MATERIALS

T-HANGAR ELECTRICAL SYSTEM UPGRADE

BID # 2004-161

OFFEROR: \_\_\_\_\_

RIO BRAVO ELECTRIC, INC. dba RIO GRANDE ELECTRIC

The State of Texas requires a "separated contract" for tax exemption purposes. This format complies with this requirement.

The amounts entered for base bids, alternates and unit prices are the agreed contract prices for incorporated materials.

Base Bid

\$ 175,500.<sup>00</sup>

SUPPLEMENTAL OFFEROR INFORMATION  
PART II

SUBCONTRACTOR AND/OR SUPPLIER IDENTIFICATION

T-HANGAR ELECTRICAL SYSTEM UPGRADE

BID # 2004-161

OFFEROR: RIO BRAVO ELECTRIC, INC. dba RIO GRANDE ELEC.

The Offeror shall indicate below the name of each subcontractor and/or supplier the Offeror will use in the performance of the contract. The Offeror shall specify the work to be performed by the subcontractor or the materials to be provided by the supplier, the amount of the subcontract or purchase order, and the percentage of the contract the Offeror will expand throughout the life of the project. **ANY CHANGES IN SUBCONTRACTOR AND/OR SUPPLIER LISTED BELOW SHALL REQUIRE ADDITIONAL APPROVAL PRIOR TO CONTRACT EXECUTION.**

Name & Address	Service / Supplies	\$ Value	% of Contract
SUMMIT ELECTRIC 7101 LOCKHEED, EL PASO TX	PANELS ETC	15900. <sup>00</sup>	9.7%
CED 11180 ROTAS EL PASO TX	MISCELLANEOUS	35500. <sup>00</sup>	20.7%
TOBE CONCRETE 41 McKEILIGAN CANYON	ASPHALT	6750. <sup>00</sup>	3.85%
MIRAJ MOBILE 11150 GATEWAY E STEAK & B	TRAILERS	1400. <sup>00</sup>	.08%
SUNSTATE EQUIPMENT 8660 KASTNER	TRAILER/EQUIPMENT RENTAL	14540. <sup>00</sup>	8.2%

TOTAL:

74090.<sup>00</sup>  
(Dollars)

42.2%  
(% of Contract)

Heating and Ventilating :      Section: \_\_\_\_\_  
Plumbing:                              Section: \_\_\_\_\_  
Electrical:                              Section: \_\_\_\_\_

**Addenda:**

NO.   1        DATE   4-28-04        NO.             DATE         
NO.             DATE             NO.             DATE         
NO.             DATE             NO.             DATE       

**2.0      SCOPE OF WORK**

**2.1      Intent of Contract**

It is the intent of the contract documents to describe a functionally complete project to be constructed to its completion in every detail of the work described. The Contractor shall furnish all labor, materials, equipment, transportation, and supplies required to complete the work in accordance with the plans, specifications, and terms and conditions of the contract.

**2.2      Changes and Alterations**

2.2.1      The Contractor further agrees that the Owner may make such changes and alterations as the Owner may see fit, in the line, grade, form, dimensions, plans or materials for the work herein contemplated, or any part thereof, either before or after the beginning of construction without affecting the validity of this contract and the accompanying bond.

2.2.2      If such changes or alterations diminish the quantity of the work to be done, they shall not constitute the basis for a claim for damages, or anticipated profits on the work that may be dispensed with. If they increase the amount of work, and the increased work can fairly be classified under the specifications, such increase shall be paid according to the quantity actually done and at the unit price established for such work under this contract; otherwise, such additional work shall be paid for as provided under Paragraph 2.5, as it relates to extra work.

2.2.3      In case the Owner shall make such changes or alterations as shall make useless any work already done or material already furnished or used in said work, then the Owner shall recompense the Contractor for any material or labor so used and for any actual loss occasioned by such change, due to actual expenses incurred in preparation for the work, as originally planned.

THE STATE OF TEXAS )  
COUNTY OF EL PASO )

BID BOND

SURETY'S NO.

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that Rio Bravo Electric, Inc. DBA Rio Grande Electric  
(hereinafter called the Principal), as Principal, and Continental Casualty Company  
as Surety, are hereby held and firmly bound unto THE CITY OF EL PASO, as Owner, in the penal sum of  
Five Percent of Maximum Bid

\_\_\_\_\_ for the payment of which, well and truly to be made, we  
hereby jointly and severally bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns.

SIGNED, this 28th day of April, 2004.

The conditions of the above obligation are such that whereas the Principal has submitted to the City of El Paso a certain bid,  
attached hereto and hereby made a part hereof, to enter into a contract in writing for the T-HANGAR ELECTRICAL SYSTEM  
UPGRADE, BID NUMBER 2004-161.

NOW, THEREFORE,

- a) If said bid shall be rejected, or in the alternate,
- b) If said bid shall be accepted and within fourteen (14) consecutive calendar days after the Principal has received notice of  
his acceptance, the Principal shall properly complete, execute, and deliver insurance certificates and a contract in the  
form approved by the Owner and shall furnish a bond for his faithful performance of said contract, and for the payment of  
all persons performing labor or furnishing materials in connection therewith, and shall in all other respects perform the  
agreement created by the acceptance of said Bid, then this obligation shall be void; otherwise the same shall remain in  
force and effect, it being expressly understood and agree that the liability of the Surety for any and all claims hereunder  
shall, in no event, exceed the penal amount of this obligation, as herein stated.

The Surety, for value received, hereby stipulates and agrees that the obligations of said Surety and its bond shall be in no way  
impaired or affected by any extension of the time within which the OWNER MAY ACCEPT such bid; such extension to be upon  
notice to the Surety by the Principal.

IN WITNESS, WHEREOF, the Principal and the Surety have hereunto set their hands and seals, and such of them as are  
corporations have caused their corporate seals to be hereto affixed and these presents to be signed by their proper officers, the day and  
year first set forth above.

Rio Bravo Electric, Inc. DBA Rio Grande Electric

Principal • Company Name

7125 Stiles Rd.

Address

El Paso, Texas 79915

City, State, Zip Code

Continental Casualty Company

Surety • Company Name

440 Raynolds

Address

El Paso, Texas 79905

City, State, Zip Code

Signed by (Principal Agent)

Jesus G. Guerra - President

Principal Agent's Name (Printed or Typed)

915 774-0131

Telephone No.

915 774-0239

Fax No.

Signed by (Surety Agent)

Linda Fields Attorney-In-Fact

Surety Agent's Name (Printed or Typed)

915 772-8881

Telephone No.

915 772-7001

Fax No.



POWER OF ATTORNEY APPOINTING INDIVIDUAL ATTORNEY-IN-FACT

Know All Men By These Presents, That Continental Casualty Company, an Illinois corporation, National Fire Insurance Company of Hartford, a Connecticut corporation, and American Casualty Company of Reading, Pennsylvania, a Pennsylvania corporation (herein called "the CNA Companies"), are duly organized and existing corporations having their principal offices in the City of Chicago, and State of Illinois, and that they do by virtue of the signatures and seals herein affixed hereby make, constitute and appoint

Steven R Carvajal, William L Carvajal, Linda Fields, Individually

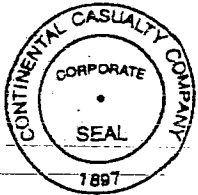
of El Paso, TX, their true and lawful Attorney(s)-in-Fact with full power and authority hereby conferred to sign, seal and execute for and on their behalf bonds, undertakings and other obligatory instruments of similar nature

- In Unlimited Amounts -

and to bind them thereby as fully and to the same extent as if such instruments were signed by a duly authorized officer of their corporations and all the acts of said Attorney, pursuant to the authority hereby given is hereby ratified and confirmed.

This Power of Attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the By-Law and Resolutions, printed on the reverse hereof, duly adopted, as indicated, by the Boards of Directors of the corporations.

In Witness Whereof, the CNA Companies have caused these presents to be signed by their Senior Vice President and their corporate seals to be hereto affixed on this 23rd day of October, 2003.



Continental Casualty Company  
National Fire Insurance Company of Hartford  
American Casualty Company of Reading, Pennsylvania

Michael Gengler Senior Vice President

State of Illinois, County of Cook, ss:

On this 23rd day of October, 2003, before me personally came Michael Gengler to me known, who, being by me duly sworn, did depose and say: that he resides in the City of Chicago, State of Illinois; that he is a Senior Vice President of Continental Casualty Company, an Illinois corporation, National Fire Insurance Company of Hartford, a Connecticut corporation, and American Casualty Company of Reading, Pennsylvania, a Pennsylvania corporation described in and which executed the above instrument; that he knows the seals of said corporations; that the seals affixed to the said instrument are such corporate seals; that they were so affixed pursuant to authority given by the Boards of Directors of said corporations and that he signed his name thereto pursuant to like authority, and acknowledges same to be the act and deed of said corporations.



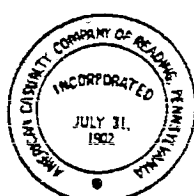
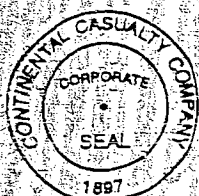
My Commission Expires September 17, 2006

Eliza Price Notary Public

CERTIFICATE

I, Mary A. Ribikawskis, Assistant Secretary of Continental Casualty Company, an Illinois corporation, National Fire Insurance Company of Hartford, a Connecticut corporation, and American Casualty Company of Reading, Pennsylvania, a Pennsylvania corporation do hereby certify that the Power of Attorney herein above set forth is still in force, and further certify that the By-Law and Resolution of the Board of Directors of the corporations printed on the reverse hereof is still in force. In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the seal of the said corporations this

28th day of April, 2004.



Continental Casualty Company  
National Fire Insurance Company of Hartford  
American Casualty Company of Reading, Pennsylvania

Mary A. Ribikawskis Assistant Secretary